



GM/bm

JUN 18 1963

ISTITUTO DI GENETICA
UNIVERSITÀ DI PAVIA
VIA SANT' EPIFANIO, 14
PAVIA

June 15, 1963

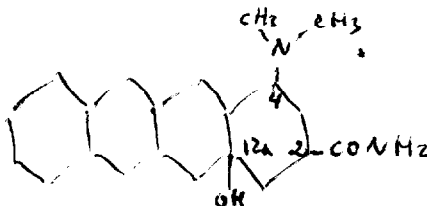
Prof. Joshua Lederberg
Stanford University
Medical Center
Department of Genetics
P a l o A l t o, Calif.

Dear Josh,

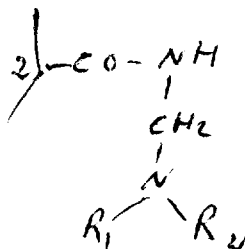
this is to answer to your letter of May 23rd. I am glad to see that you will probably arrange something with Varon.

As far as your questions on tetracyclines, the only information I have on Ester derivatives are the following:

- A) Esters from acetyl to propional and even longer chains have been described where the esterification was done in position 12a



- B) Many other compounds which are no really esters but Mannich bases have been described in position 2 having the following general formula:



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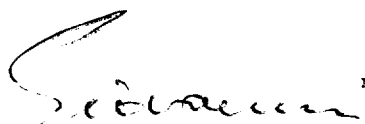
These are very instable and hydrolize~~d~~ very quickly. These 2 groups are the only derivatives of tetracycline, I know, which are not changed in the nucleus: unless we consider changes out of the nucleus the decarbamino-acetyl-derivatives in position 2 and the N-methyl-ethyl-derivatives in position 4.

If you are interested in the detailed references ~~of~~ anyone of these groups, please let me know.

Unfortunately our knowledge on antibiotics ~~rather~~ than tetracyclines is limited but I will try to find out what is known according to your request.

Sofar we did not get any news either from Schering or Lepetit. On the 1st of July ~~we~~ let you know something when the deadline for the discontinuation of the present contract will be expired.

As ever,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'G. E. Magni', with a large, sweeping initial 'G'.

G. E. Magni